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P.D. [signature]  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 71493-688

In re Patent Application of EVERT E. DEBOER ET AL

Serial No. 09/620,248

Group Art Unit: 2633

Filed: JULY 20, 2000

Examiner:



For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL COMMUNICATION PROTECTION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in the manner prescribed by 37 CFR 1.97(b)

- (d) to satisfy the duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to disclose to the Office information, known to individuals associated with the filing and prosecution of the subject application, which is material to the examination of the application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(e), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), a list of all patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office is hereby provided by way of the attached Form PTO 1449.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), also enclosed is a legible copy of:

- i) each United States and foreign patent;
- ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and
- iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, excluding any copies of a United States patent application.

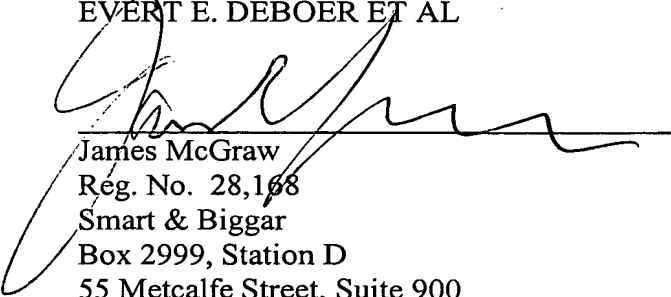
It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered by the Examiner and that the references be made of record and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit Account Number 19-2550.

Respectfully submitted,

EVERT E. DEBOER ET AL

Dated: June 26, 2002



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Encls.: Form PTO-1449  
All references listed on Form PTO-1449  
PCT Search Report  
Acknowledgement Card